



Structural Amorphous Metals (SAM)

Leo Christodoulou
DARPA/DSO

Pre-proposal Workshop
June 6, 2000

Arlington, Virginia



Agenda



- **DARPA Program Overview** **L. Christodoulou (DARPA)**
- **Possible Application Domains**
 - Navy** **W. Messick (NSWC)**
 - Air Force** **D. Miracle (AFRL/AFOSR)**
 - Army** **R. Dowding (ARL)**
- **Technical Discussion Lead (45 minutes)** **W. Johnson (Cal Tech)**
- **Participant contributions (5-10 minutes)** **ALL present**
- **Programmatics** **A. Diness**
- **Website demo** **H. Heigele**
- **Questions and answers**
- **Teaming interactions** **As desired**



Objectives of Meeting



Introduce DARPA's interest in amorphous metals

Provide information on anticipated research thrusts, focus areas, plans and initiative structure

Illustrate potential DoD application areas

Provide some background information on the technology

Give opportunity to community to provide input to DARPA on broad areas of interest

Provide opportunity for teaming

DARPA is Soliciting **YOUR Ideas on Potential Program Activities**

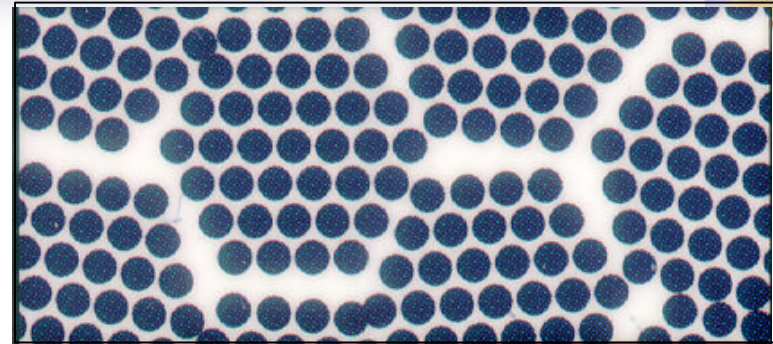


Amorphous Metals are Fundamentally Different



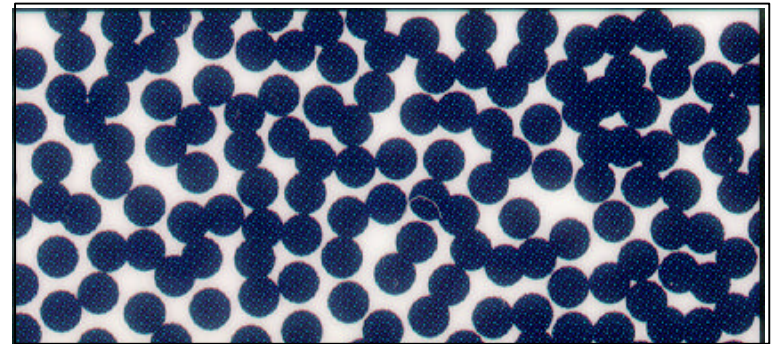
Crystalline (Normal) Metals

- *Long-range order*
- *Grain boundaries*



Amorphous Metals

- *NO long-range order*
- *NO grain boundaries*



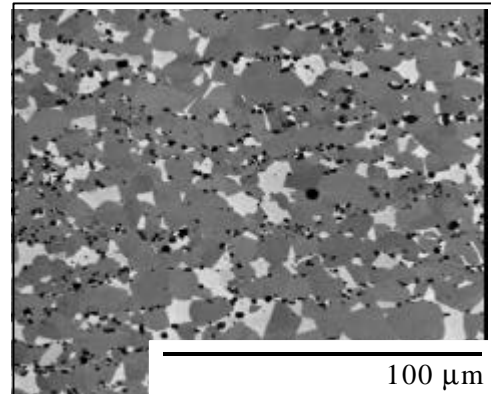
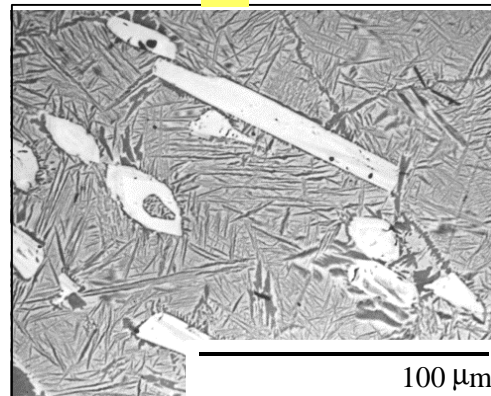
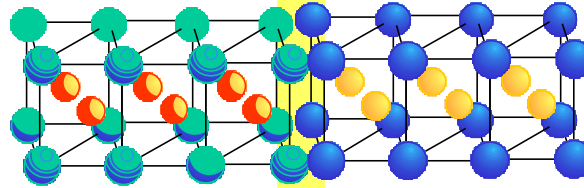
Amorphous Metals Exhibit Unique Properties



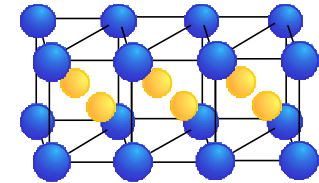
Background



Polycrystalline



Monocrystalline



- Materials derive their properties from their “structure”
metals, ceramics, semiconductors, magnetics, composites, etc.
- Structure incorporates chemistry, scale, morphology, crystallinity, surfaces (external, internal), defects (point, line, volume), etc.

Examples:

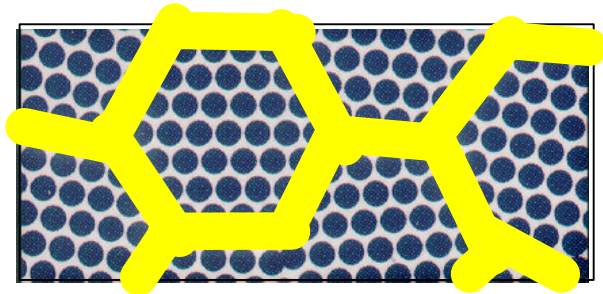
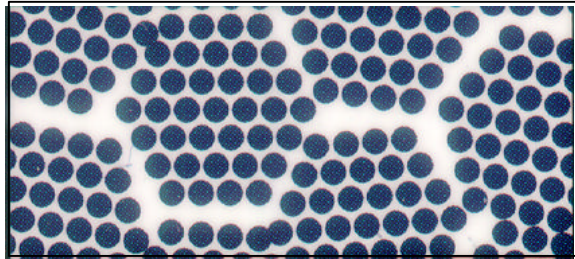
Some turbine blades
Si, Bi_2Te_3 , etc.



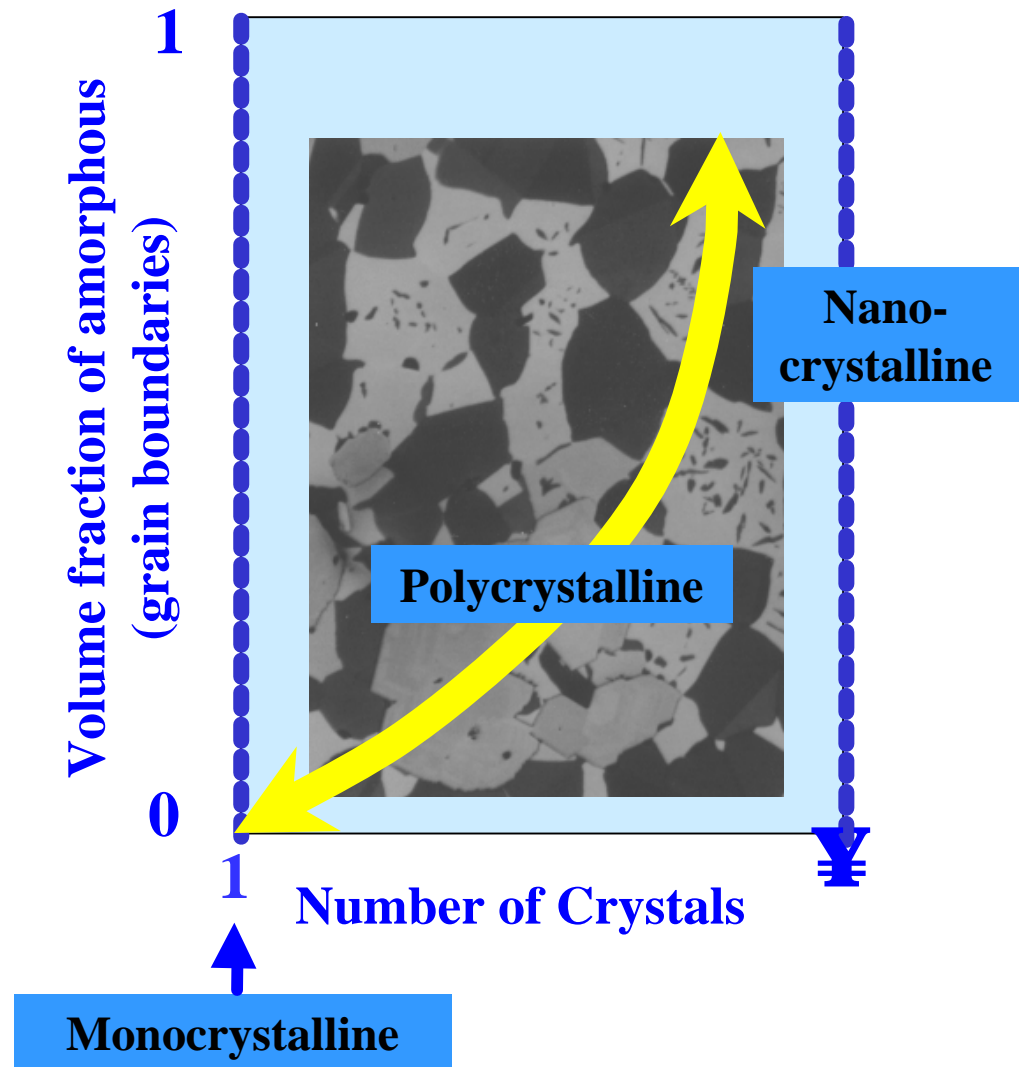
Grain Boundaries: Crystalline Materials



Polycrystalline



- High angle grain boundaries can be considered as “amorphous”.
- Changes in grain size change the amorphous volume fraction of amorphous material

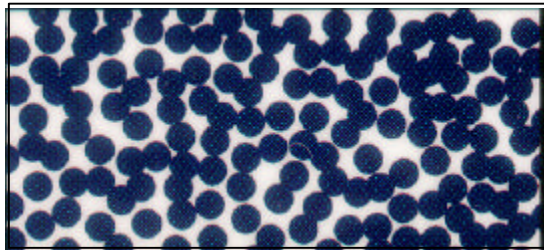




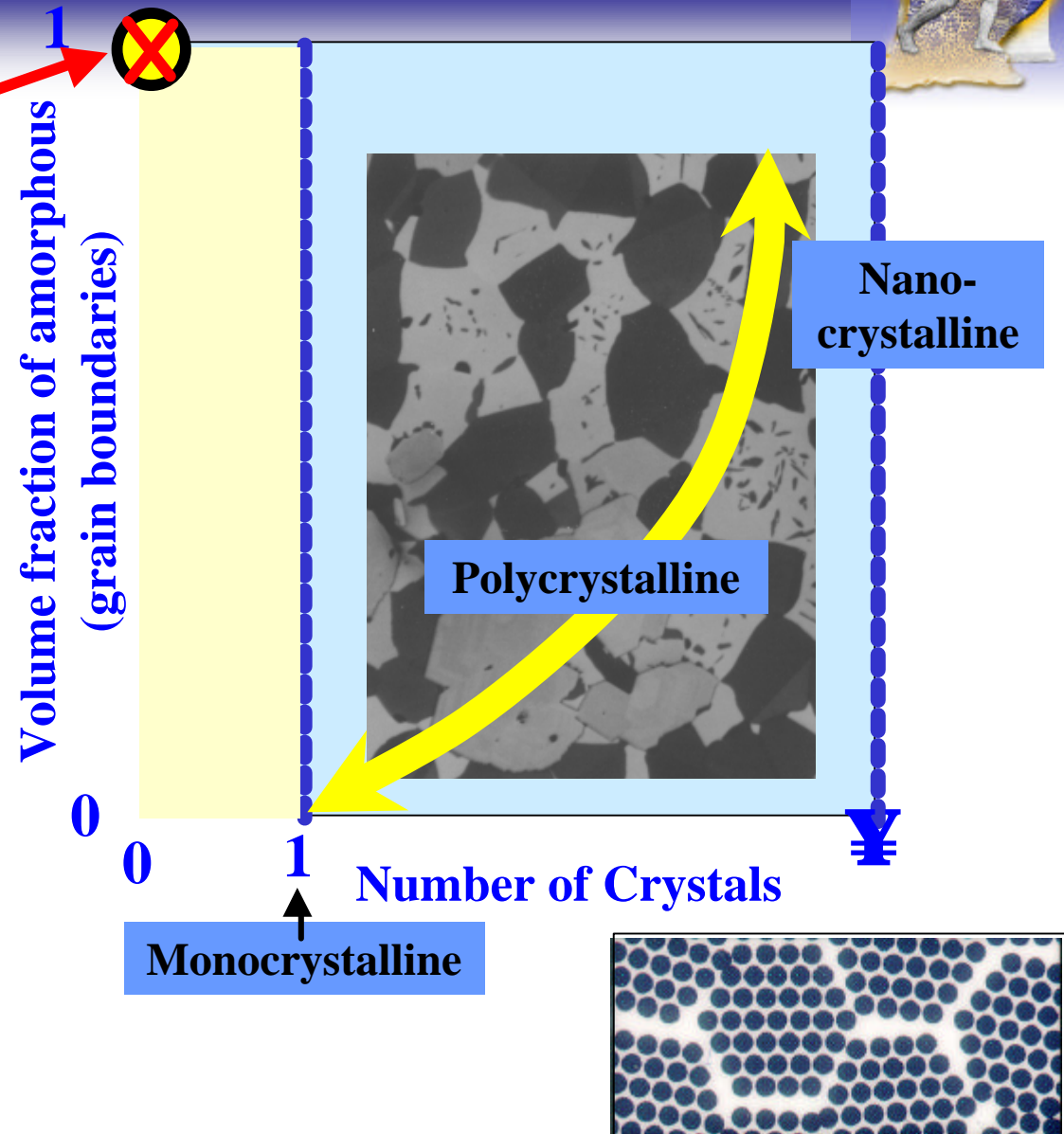
Structural Amorphous Metals Are Different



Amorphous



- Amorphous Metals are **NOT** confined by limitations of crystalline materials
- A new opportunity now exists for structural materials.

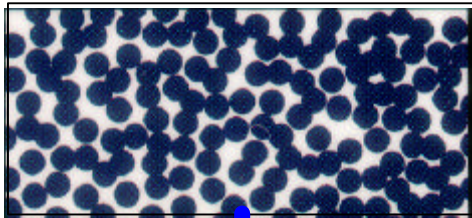




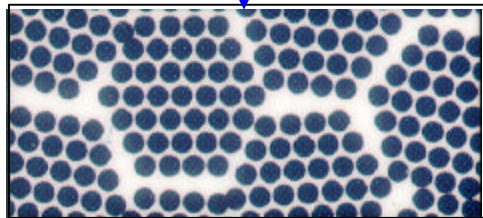
Transformations of SAM to Crystalline Offer Additional Degrees of Materials Design Freedom



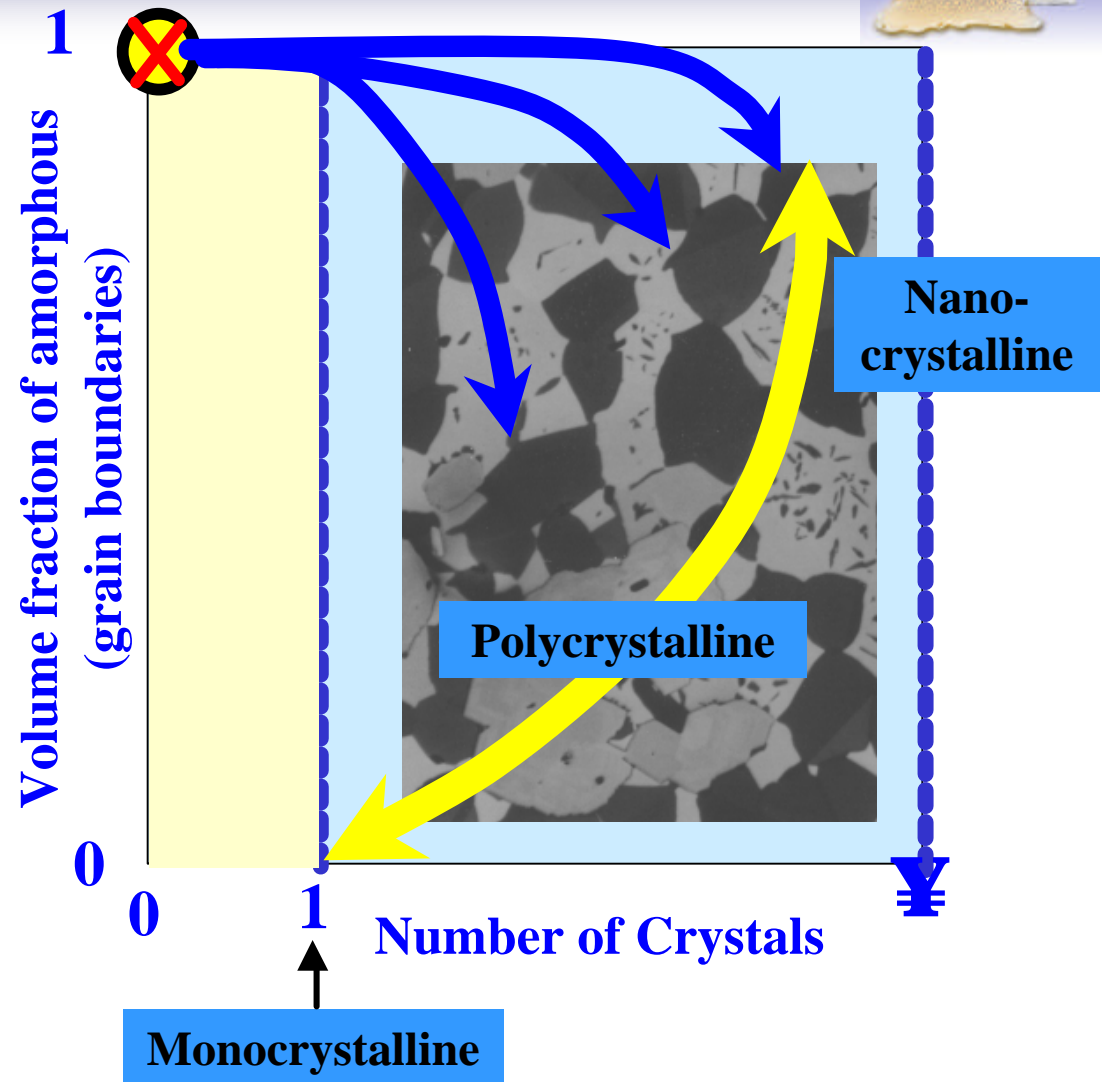
- Short-range order
- NO grain boundaries



Transition path
could be of
CRITICAL
importance



- Long-range order
- Grain boundaries

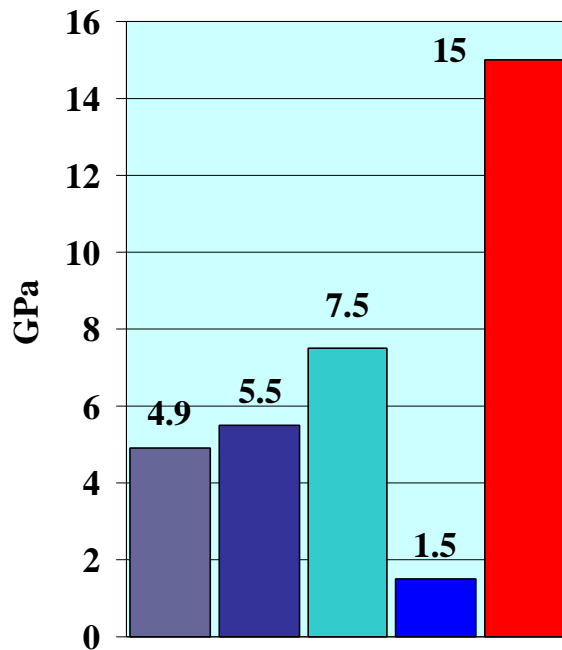




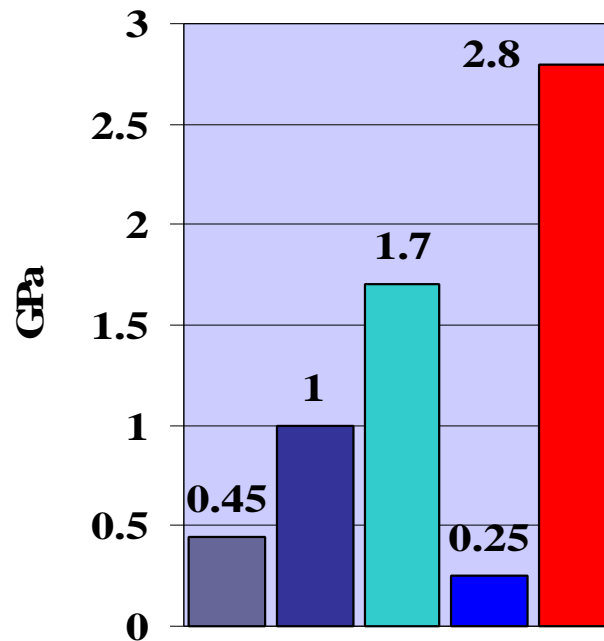
Why Amorphous Metals?



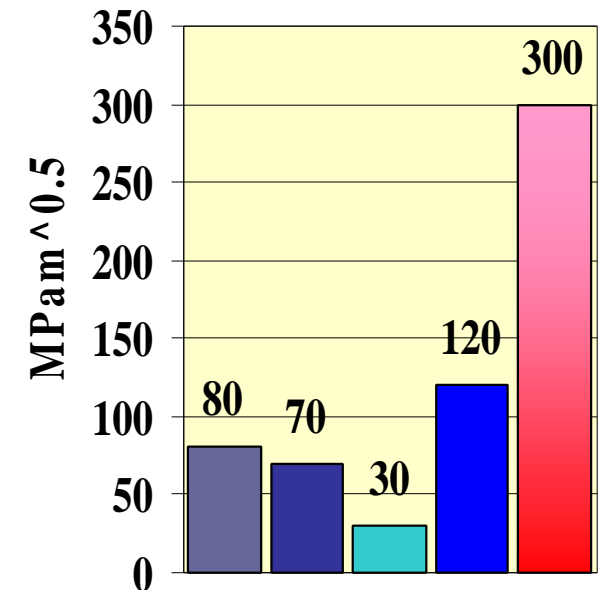
Hardness



Strength



Fracture Toughness



Steels
 Carbon Stainless
 High Strength Amorphous
 Tool

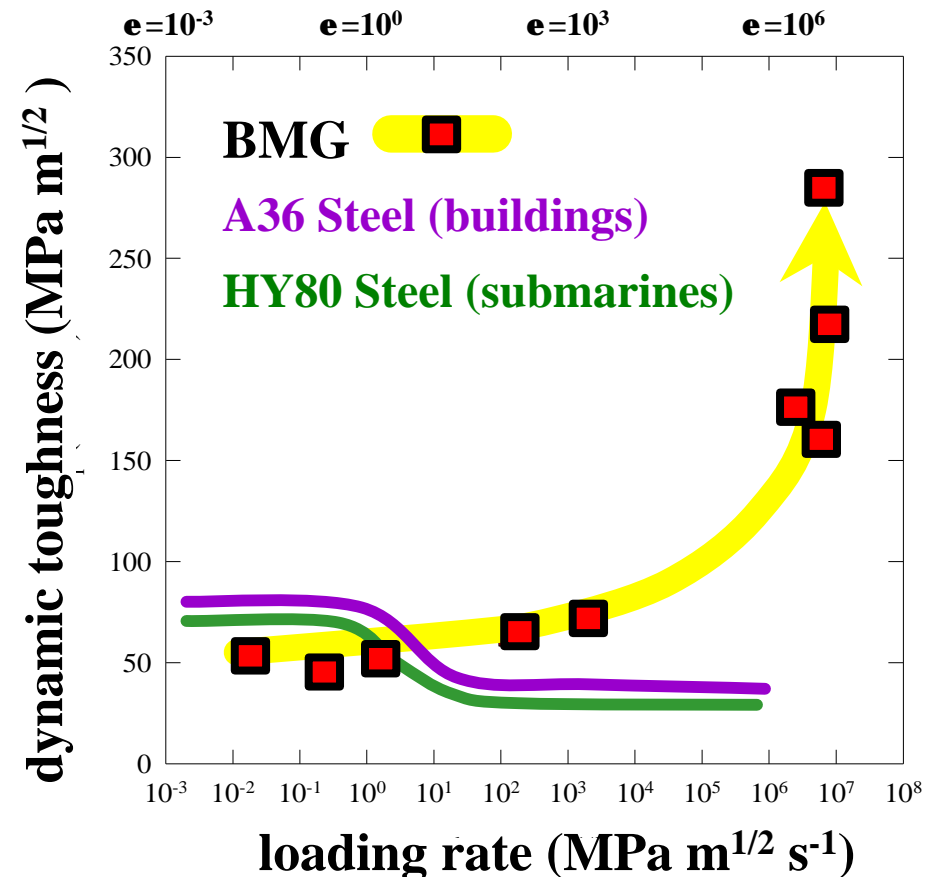
Amorphous Metals are in a Class of their Own!



Unexpected Strain Rate Response in BMG

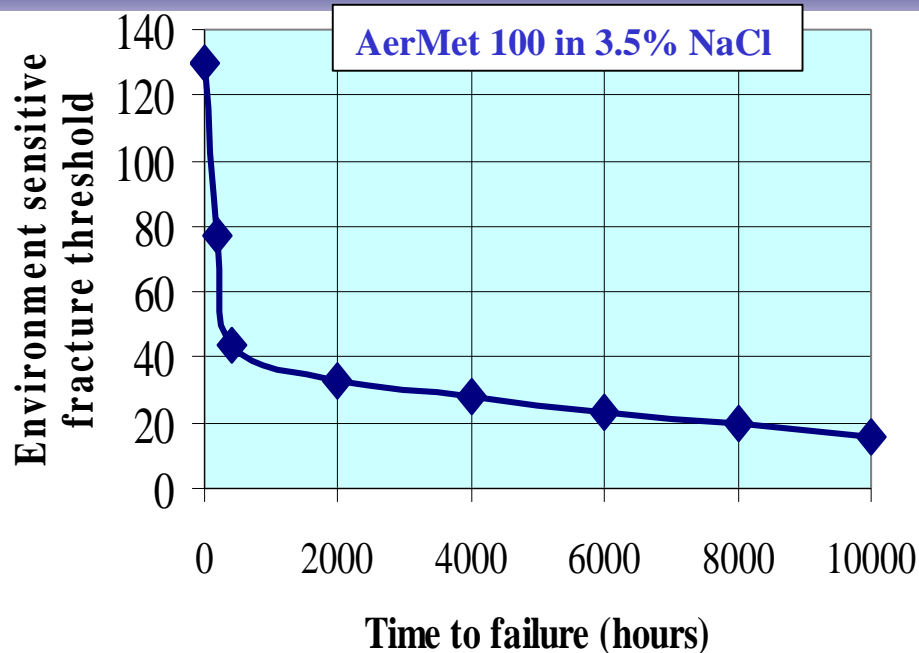
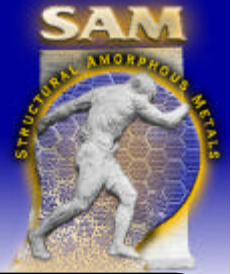


- Dynamic toughness of BMGs is **EXACTLY** the opposite of conventional materials -- **toughness increases with strain rate**
- All conventional materials exhibit **reduced toughness** with increasing strain rate
- **Speculate** that combination of high strength, hardness and dynamic fracture behavior will translate into **good ballistic/blast** response

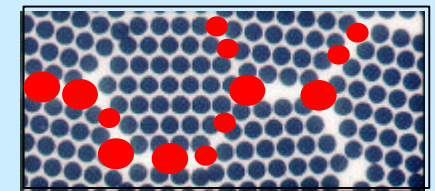
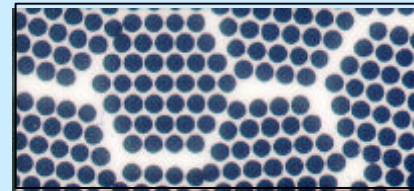




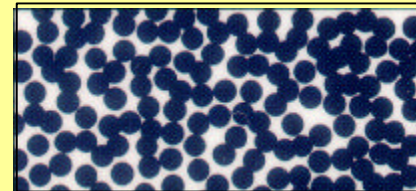
Wear and Corrosion



Crystalline Localized Corrosion



Amorphous Steel



???

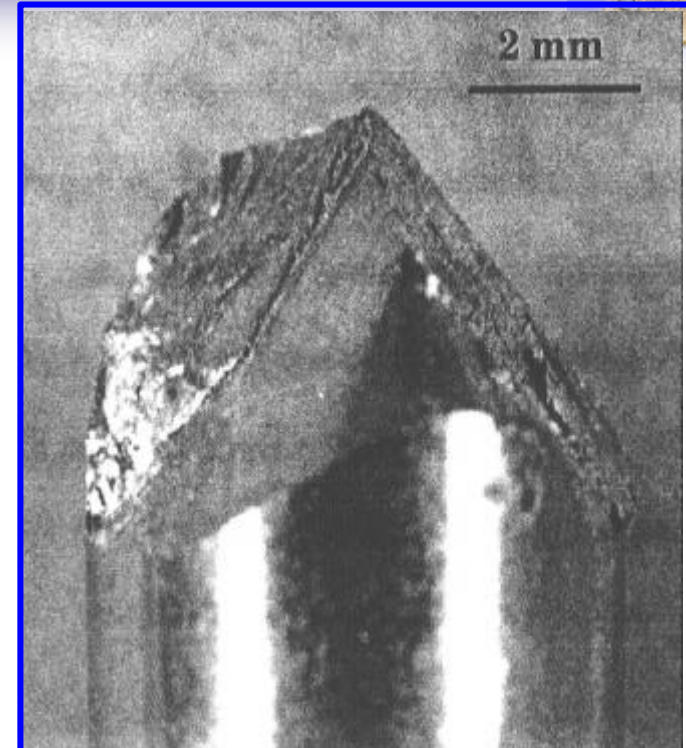
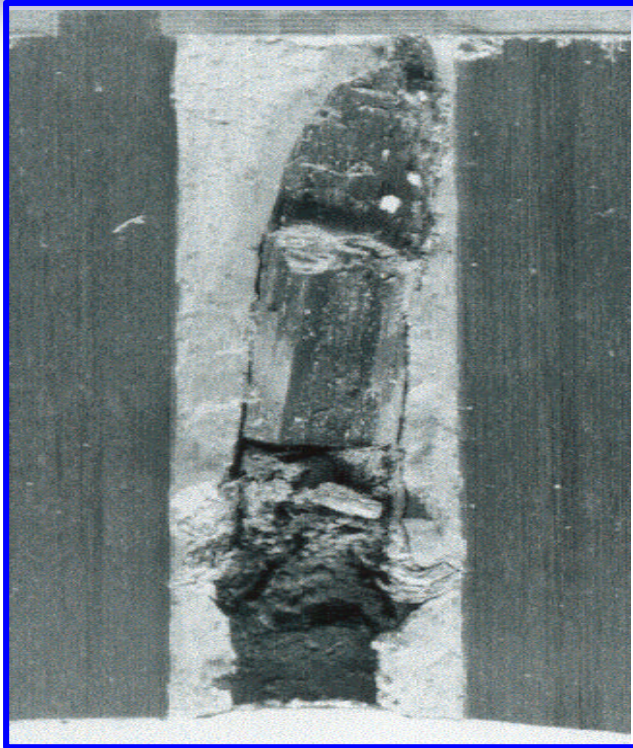


Amorphous Materials

- Do NOT have grain boundaries (NO corrosion initiation sites)
- Very high wear resistance (better than Si_3N_4)
- Damage tolerant



New Penetrator Materials



BMG material known to exhibit self sharpening behavior



DARPA Investment Philosophy



- **High risk, high payoff projects**
 - **Revolutionary, Enabling, Compelling**
 - **Sound “physics”**
 - **Targeted “challenge problem”**
- **“Venture capital” model**
 - **High barrier to project selection**
 - **Investment decisions quick and final**
 - **Elimination of marginal/evolutionary projects**
- **No pre-allocation of resources to specific disciplines**



Challenge Problem



Challenge Problem

Application oriented

Forms the focal point for targeting research effort

Has specific technical objective(s) to meet a present or future need

Has a specific and quantitative outcome

Can serve as a demonstration of a broader technology impact



General Aims of DARPA



- **Establish the science for producing and using amorphous metals**
 - What controls glass **forming** behavior?
 - Can we synthesize “**amorphous**” **alloys by design**?
 - What useful microstructures** can be developed?
 - What controls properties, especially **deformation and fracture** behavior?
 - What are the technical **scale-up issues**?
 - Where are the **troublesome problems**?
 - Are there **hidden** problems?
- **Deliver material system with **compelling performance**, low cost and environmentally benign constituents in example challenge problems**
- **Involve Services and industry upfront to **ensure transition****



There is a Broad Area of Activities that are Potentially Encompassed in this Initiative



- **Understand mechanism(s) of formation and evolution of properties.**
 - Explore composition space and synthesize materials
 - Develop models and/or tools to predict amorphous alloy formation
 - Determine useful microstructural evolution pathways from amorphous state
 - Determine mechanisms and models of deformation and fracture
 - Characterize strength, hardness, damage tolerance, corrosion resistance, wear, friction, etc.
- **Develop fabrication and processing methodologies**
 - Production methodologies (bulk processes only)
 - Sheet, wrought products, castings and net shape products
 - Joining techniques
 - Aim for low cost processes and environmentally benign materials
- **Deliver material systems and facilitate transition**
 - Target specific challenge problems
 - Show feasibility and take materials through to demonstration items in the application environment
 - Define requirements for scale-up

These are possible activities that have been identified. Not exclusive or prescriptive!!!



Potential Overall Initiative Structure



- Most likely **three focal areas/teams** (e.g., Fe, Al, Refractory)
- University activities: MURI-like (may be jointly funded by other Agencies)
- Each focal area to be industry-led (can include universities, Government labs, overseas institutions)
- DoD Agency collaborator/DARPA agent for each focal area
- Limit to **bulk material** systems of **greatest impact**
Not a “gram quantity” material program
- Program will aim to be “balanced”



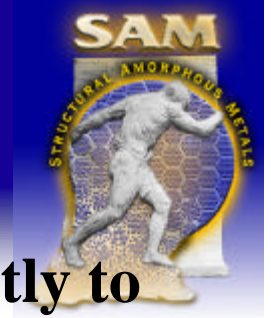
Anticipated Program (1)



Total anticipated funds:	Approx. \$30M
Cost share:	Meaningful cost share DESIRED but not required
Collaborating Agencies:	ONR/NSWC ARO/ARL/ARDEC AFOSR/AFML
Transition:	Close interaction with potential user Agency desired. Transition plan an evaluation factor
Instrument type: other transactions, etc.)	Any suitable (Contracts, Grants,



Anticipated Program (2)



- Government Labs:** DoD labs CANNOT respond directly to BAA. As subs/team members OK
DOE Labs can lead under special arrangements
- Overseas organizations:** Permitted (ITAR and other regulations apply)
- Agency Co-ordination:** DARPA desires to co-ordinate activities with other Government Agencies;
ONR, ARO, AFOSR, NSF, DOE, DOC
- Program duration:** 3 years
- Deliverables:** Material systems, models, reports, papers, final transition plan, production/
commercialization plan



Anticipated Program (3)



Meetings:	Joint technical meetings between all teams Program reviews may be separate
Coordination:	Industry teams and “MURI” team to collaborate. Industry team to provide input, feedback to reports and materials to University activities
International collaboration:	Encouraged if it makes sense. Not a “one way street”. ITAR & other regulations apply



Anticipated Program (4)



Programs contingent on availability of funds.

For any selected proposals funding beyond first year contingent on satisfactory progress as judged by DARPA.

DARPA reserves the right to fund any or none of the proposals received.

DARPA reserves the right to fund portions of any proposed effort.

DARPA may suggest teaming AFTER proposals are reviewed. Teaming is up to the parties concerned.



Cost Share



- **Desirable, but not required**
 - **Improves “Cost Reasonableness”**
 - **Shows commitment especially of the industry-led teams**
- **May be from any source within the team**
- **Types in order of value as cost share**
 - **Cash**
 - **In-kind (actually expended) services or costs**
 - **IRAD under control of team (not a generic IRAD in a related area)**
 - **Prior art NOT allowed**



MURI-like University Activities



- **May be jointly funded with other Agencies**
University proposers are encouraged to contact other agencies to explore options
- **Coordinated effort among universities desired**
- **University activity to interface with all teams after selection**
Joint reviews, reports to be circulated to all contractors, receive materials as appropriate
- **Funds can not in general be used for equipment purchases**
- **Unlikely to fund individual investigator programs**



Potential Evaluation Criteria



Technical Merit

- Demonstrates understanding of the state of the art
- Critical issues identified
- Provides unique and sound technical approach that meets objectives
- Defines a sound technical plan including materials discovery, production, fabrication, characterization, modeling

Impact and Relevance to DoD

- Well chosen material system for the selected challenge problem
- Likelihood to provide bulk, low cost and environmentally benign materials
- Transition plan

Personnel and Facilities

- Strong credentials in relevant disciplines
- Computational and experimental facilities consistent with proposed effort

Cost Realism

- Proposed cost commensurate with proposed effort
- Cost share

Balance Across Material Systems

Evaluation criteria will be announced in the BAA



Schedule



Pre-proposal conference

June 6th 2000

Feedback from community

June 6th – 12th 2000

Release of BAA (estimated)

June 20th 2000

Proposals due (estimated)

Mid September 2000

Notification of winners (estimated)

Late October 2000

Contract negotiations start (estimated)

Early November 2000



Communications



- Web site: www.sainc.com/darpa/sam;
can be linked from DARPA/DSO
- Check FAQs BEFORE before making contact
- All questions to be submitted via fax (703 696 3999) or via
the web site (www.sainc.com/darpa/sam)
- **NO** telephone calls
- Answers will be posted on the Web site
- All charts (used on June 6, 2000) will be available on the
web site



Outputs Expected



- **Establish the science** for producing and using amorphous metals
- Deliver material system with **compelling performance**, low cost and environmentally benign constituents in example challenge problems
- Involve Services and industry upfront to **ensure transition**